

Miss Weston

Dublin, April 2-1851.

My dear Friend - Francis Jennings, of Cork, Esquire,
youngest brother to The Jenningses of Cork, nephew of your
neighbour Mr. Richardson, member of the Royal Irish
Academy, & commonly known by the style of Sir
Francis Jennings has honored me so far as to say that
if he had a line from me he would feel more easy in
his mind in calling on me - so I can do no less than
comply, although I know he has a line from his bright
pleasing and sister Isabel with whom you have been ac-
quainted these years so long. Francis Jennings is a man
of science, a champion of us, an ardent, and better
than a very pleasant fellow - as plain as his name,
offhand, unpretending & good natured - and, yet as sometimes
happens with just such people, perfectly indifferent
to some things that we think of vast importance. He
is, for instance, much more for Father Mathew's
having come under the lash of the abolitionists than
for them in being disappointed in our shabby efforts
of Temperance. He works power and does think
people should go much out of their way for negroes &
such like helpless races. He is by profession a
faithful reformer - but is a proof in himself that both
either or both of them are insufficient to make a
reformer of any body. Nevertheless as we cannot
have people all ~~as~~ ^{to} fashioned after our own pattern
we must take them as we find them and Francis Jennings
is an admirable specimen of the native Barbarian of
our Celestial Empire for we can only hope he may
one day or other become a denizen of the Flowery Land.

A number of Quakers in Dublin have come to the
~~the~~ resolution that something must be done about having
an anti-slavery society - and so they have formed two -
one a gentlemen's & another a ladies A. S. Socy. The secre-
tary chosen for the first is your humble servant and for
the second Mary Edmondson (sister to Eliza Wigham)
her wife being a sort of vice president to help her on. I am nervous
in the way of being too sanguine - so I do not hope much
from the anti-slavery side of a parcel of Quakers - However
the societies are not to be sectarian or exclusive & James
Haughton, who is made a ^{vice} president (he ought to be pre-
sident) remarked that he did not see in what way so much
good ~~for~~ could be done to help the cause in America as by promoting
the objects of the Boston Bazaar. To my amusement no objections
were made to this proposition though all the Quakers are terribly
frightened by the talk there has been about heresy & new opinions
in connection with Boston abolitionism. I have told this new
society that I could do my ~~best~~ best to promote their objects - but that
I could not alter my course in the least from what it has been
out of deference to them. All I do undertake in this way was not
to do any thing as these ^{secretary} that they did not appear ~~off~~ being
done. I am in hope that with ~~Richard~~ James Haughton &
myself on the Committee some good may be done. Richard Allen is
greatly afraid of breaking up the concern by introducing any ground of
dispute - but I don't think any society could do more for any thing who
were continually trying to run away from their shadow. The people
here are broke off for information and that they shall have and plenty
of it. The two societies are bound entirely apart and then the women
will have full play for all their faculties and with I hope and believe
be likely to surpass their brethren in usefulness. The greater part
of both factions are anti-slavery babies - and stand in a special prom-
ise if any of these are ready to an age of discretion.
We have just had a long letter from Mr. Pease - the first for ever
so long. I thought she had been prostrated outright by N. C. Co's
heresies & pernicious publications of them - but it seems not. There was
a good letter from her in the Liberator lately - I think written for pub-
lication - though from with his usual coarseness in such cases,

informs his readers that he or states private confidences in giving
it to the public. He also enclosed for me reading a letter from Wendell
Phillips warning us against a contemplated invasion from Charles
Sumner - speaking of George Thompson and the sensation he has made -
and telling of the conduct of the abolitionists in connection with the
Fugitive Slave Bill. It is on the whole extremely interesting and is to
be in from us to the letter today. The Anti-Slavery paper - the
Standard & Liberator - are extremely interesting and George Thompson
himself glorious on the scene of his hottest triumphs. Still though all
their energy and zeal it is plain that nothing short of a stupendous
power of helping could help the abolitionists through all these machi-
nations of base men in high places. It is exceedingly difficult
for us at a distance to comprehend the depths of American public
opinion on any matter where the colored race are concerned.

Elizabeth Pease asks me where you are likely to be found in London
and intends to go there in the hope of seeing you. I wrote that
Mrs. Follen told me. Hannah had a letter from one of her
sisters yesterday in which she says she had rather see "those
women" (the Venturs) than all the exhibitions - so you see how
famous you are. I am entirely in the same mood - but unlike
her who will most probably see neither, I mean to try. She
tells me I have no measures of plan settled about going.
If I go, Hannah must come with me - we would be damn people
must wait a while till we know on what terms the like of
us can live in London at all. You know people talk of stuffing
themselves into all sorts of queer holes & corners at that time. My
sister who was in America is now going to be carried by her husband
off to Australia if they can get the means to do - Her father is
exceedingly warm - but there seems no chance of their being able
to keep body & soul together here. May I hope for a line
from you by Frank Jennings? If you have time we shall be
very glad to hear from you. With kindest regards to Mrs. Pease
and the beloved South - Yours ever truly

Richd D Webb

I had a friendly note from Miss Martineau yesterday
begging me to assist in promoting the knowledge of some
new discoveries she has heard of (which is not new at all)
for the preservation of Indian meal, and making it palat-
able to those who don't like the meal as sometimes made.
I believe it is a process of Kila drying and that it is no more
than thousands are aware of already. She is a wonderfully
impulsive woman and very often gets laughed at for hasty
enthusiasms which take their course unattended with suffi-
cient judgment and deliberation. Still she is a good woman
whom I greatly respect and I wish to do all I can to her whether
in the matter of the meal she has anything new to offer.
She has most kindly taken on board to fit the Crafts educated
in one of Lady Byron's schools. She is a good soul as well as a
great woman although she as much as deserves that we have
no souls whatever. I hope we have none to be damned at any
rate.